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Ya están disponibles las Cajas de Sobres para Colecta, así como los Calendarios Católicos. ¡Por favor, pasen por la Tienda de Regalos después de la Misa este fin de semana o durante el horario de oficina para recoger los suyos!

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martes a viernes

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(in english)
Saturdays 5:00 pm
and Sundays 10:30 am

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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(cerrado)
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Misas los domingos
(en español)
7:20 am
y 12:30 pm

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Email (correo electrónico): office@sfd-s-nc.org
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Yes, it's Christmas flower donation time! The funds collected will not only cover the cost of the flowers and greenery that will enhance our church sanctuary at Christmas, but will also help with floral costs throughout the liturgical year. Envelopes are near the church entrances. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and generosity!

¡Sí, es tiempo de donar flores navideñas! Los fondos recaudados no solo cubrirán el costo de las flores y la vegetación que embellecerán el santuario de nuestra iglesia en Navidad, sino que también ayudarán con los costos florales durante todo el año litúrgico. Los sobres están cerca de las entradas de la iglesia. ¡Gracias de antemano por su cooperación y generosidad!

Happy Birthday Blessings

Bendiciones de feliz cumpleaños

04 - 10 January 2026

Marie Alexandre, Jose Lopez, Carol Walters, Nohemi Perez Cruz, Madeline Tapia Perez, Eduardo Mauricio Baltazar, Yara Rodriguez, Jose Garcia Gerardo, Franco Chavez, Kayla Sozanski, Cynthia Gleason, Fernando Chavez, Brianna Kreutzer, Ma de la Luz Garcia, Summer Pittman, Sheila Cabral, Anahi Carranza-Mota, Alma Navarro-Banos, Ellen Walters, Luz Castro-Vera, and Vincente Perez-Sanchez



As Catholics, we know that Christmas does not begin and end on Christmas Day! We celebrate the birth of our King the full Christmas season. Please join us for our first ever Feast of the Three Kings Christmas Party on Sunday, January 4th from 3PM–5PM in the Parish Social Hall.

We will have a gift giving game (White Elephant style), music, games, and light refreshments. Feel free to bring a wrapped gift under \$10, if you would like to participate in the gift game. If you would like to bring your favorite Christmas cookies to share, we welcome them all! If you have questions, please contact April Pittman. Parishioners of all ages are welcome!

Como católicos, sabemos que la Navidad no empieza ni termina el día de Navidad. Celebramos el nacimiento de nuestro Rey durante toda la temporada navideña. Les invitamos a nuestra primera Fiesta de los Reyes Magos el domingo 4 de enero, de 3:00 pm a 5:00 pm, en el salón social.

Tendremos un juego de intercambio de regalos (tipo amigo invisible), música, juegos y un pequeño refrigerio. Si desean participar en el juego de intercambio de regalos, pueden traer un regalo envuelto, de menos de \$10. Si desean traer sus galletas navideñas favoritas para compartir, ¡serán bienvenidas! Si tienen alguna pregunta, comuníquense con April Pittman. ¡Feligreses de todas las edades son bienvenidos!



The Epiphany of The Lord (January 4, 2026)

This week’s reflection

Have you ever thought what could possibly have possessed very wise men to leave their homes and undertake a long, hard desert journey? What was so special about this new “king of the Jews”? Everyone knew that Israel was under Roman occupation. Any Jewish king would be a mere puppet of the emperor. Why would news of a powerless king in a faraway land be so attractive? Perhaps the Holy Spirit was moving them, touching a sense of longing and hope and compelling them to investigate. These wise men, astrologers and interpreters of dreams clearly believed that they were being led to someone extraordinary. What must have happened when they arrived where Joseph, Mary and the child were staying? Did they simply present their gifts and then hurry back to the East? I would imagine they stayed for a little while asking Joseph and Mary lots of questions, trying to find out what all these signs were about. And Mary and Joseph had plenty of extraordinary happenings to tell them about – angels visiting, dreams, Scriptures foretelling their arrival. Even their gifts had been foretold. These men must have been thrilled to know that the longing in their hearts could be fulfilled in this little child! Mary and Joseph evangelized these wise men from the East. Every one of us longs for a sense of meaning and purpose. All around us people are starving for answers, and the Holy Spirit may want to direct them to us, just as he directed the wise men to Mary and Joseph and the child. Like Joseph and Mary, all we have to do is share with them the ways that God has moved in us, the ways that God has shown us divine love. The Holy Spirit will take care of the rest. As we begin a new year and celebrate the coming of the wise men to the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, let us reflect on the gifts we have received from our loving God – gifts far more valuable than gold, frankincense and myrrh. Then we will be well prepared for whoever may show up at our door this year.

www.oblates.org

La Epifanía del Señor (4 de enero de 2026)

Reflexión de esta semana

¿Alguna vez se han preguntado qué pudo haber impulsado a hombres tan sabios a dejar sus hogares y emprender un largo y arduo viaje por el desierto? ¿Qué tenía de especial este nuevo "rey de los judíos"? Todos sabían que Israel estaba bajo la ocupación romana. Cualquier rey judío sería un simple títere del emperador. ¿Por qué la noticia de un rey sin poder en una tierra lejana resultaría tan atractiva? Quizás el Espíritu Santo los estaba guiando, despertando en ellos un anhelo y una esperanza, impulsándolos a investigar. Estos sabios, astrólogos e intérpretes de sueños, creían firmemente que estaban siendo guiados hacia alguien extraordinario. ¿Qué habrá sucedido cuando llegaron al lugar donde se encontraban José, María y el niño? ¿Simplemente entregaron sus regalos y regresaron apresuradamente al Oriente? Me imagino que se quedaron un tiempo, haciendo muchas preguntas a José y María, tratando de comprender el significado de todas estas señales. Y María y José tenían muchas cosas extraordinarias que contarles: la visita de ángeles, sueños, las Escrituras que profetizaban su llegada. Incluso sus regalos habían sido profetizados. ¡Estos hombres debieron sentirse emocionados al saber que el anhelo de sus corazones podía cumplirse en este pequeño niño! María y José evangelizaron a estos sabios de Oriente. Todos anhelamos un sentido de significado y propósito. A nuestro alrededor, la gente busca respuestas con desesperación, y el Espíritu Santo quizás quiera guiarlos hacia nosotros, tal como guió a los sabios hacia María, José y el niño. Al igual que José y María, todo lo que tenemos que hacer es compartir con ellos las maneras en que Dios ha actuado en nuestras vidas, las maneras en que Dios nos ha mostrado su amor divino. El Espíritu Santo se encargará del resto. Al comenzar un nuevo año y celebrar la llegada de los Reyes Magos a la casa de Jesús, María y José, reflexionemos sobre los dones que hemos recibido de nuestro amoroso Dios, dones mucho más valiosos que el oro, el incienso y la mirra. Así estaremos bien preparados para quienquiera que llame a nuestra puerta este año.

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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Readings and Masses for the Week ~ Year A
Lecturas y Misas de la Semana ~ Año A

Saturday (Jan 3rd) Mass 5:00 pm +Randall Joseph Soutiere

Sunday (Jan 4th) Misa 7:20 am (Miembros fallecidos de la familia Basilio)
Mass 10:30 am (For The People)
Misa 12:30 pm (Miembros fallecidos de la familia Juarez)

The Epiphany of The Lord
Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

Monday (Jan 5th)
Saint John Neumann, Bishop
1 Jn 3:22--4:6 Ps 2:7b-8, 10-12a Mt 2:1-12

Tuesday (Jan 6th)
Saint Andre’ Bessette, Religious
1 Jn 4:7-10 Ps 72:1-4, 7-8 Mt 6:34-44

Wednesday (Jan 7th) Mass 12:00 pm (+Antonio Lorenzo)
Saint Raymond of Penyafort
I Jn 4:11-18 Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 Mk 6:45-52

Thursday (Jan 8th) Mass 12:00 pm (+Deceased Members of Robbin Barnhill’s Family)

Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19--5:4 Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17 Lk 4:14-22a

Friday (Jan 9th) Mass 12:00 pm (+Deceased Members of the Reyes Family)
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn5:5-13 Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 Lk 5:12-16

Saturday (Jan 10th)
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn5:14-21 Ps 149:1-6a, 9b Jn 3:22-30

Our Weekly Second Collection
On the weeks that we do not have a designated special collection, the second collection will help fund the upkeep of our church building and the surrounding grounds.

Nuestra segunda colecta semanal
En las semanas en que no tenemos una colecta especial, esta segunda colecta ayudará a financiar el mantenimiento de la iglesia y sus alrededores.

Parish Financial Record
Registro Financiero Parroquial

Christmas Collection

1st Collection \$4,392.00

2nd Collection \$776.00
(Maintenance of Church Building)

Total: \$5,168.00

Last Year \$4,651.64

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

1st Collection \$4,399.00

2nd Collection \$1,345.00
(Maintenance of Church Building)

Total \$5,744.00

Last Year \$5,327.00

We thank you all for your contributions! Please remember to send your offertory envelope weekly or monthly, or give online.

¡Les agradecemos a todos por sus contribuciones! Por favor, recuerde enviar su sobre de ofertorio semanal o mensualmente, o dar en línea.

<https://www.parishgiving.org/index?e=EB7D1D74B9E1D3AFD5A6E0FD209BC0BECD23ED5C1C016A00>



In Need of Prayer/En necesidad de oración: David & Rhonda Martin, Sandra Rodríguez, Dr. Jerry Devine, Renete Cortez, Lupita Flores Castellano, Fabien, Janet Hester, Joseph & Shelby Young, Cathy Cartrette, Doris Schneider, Doris Warwick, Carolyn Wilkerson, Michelle & James White, Joan Van Huesen, Noelia Powell, Joel Rivera, Kathy Geibert, Mary Lee Wadrose, Juanita Mishoe, Ruth Keen, Sr Marta Castrejon Flores, Annette Dent, Neal Frazier, Victor Dorais, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, The Dana Family, Rosario Reantaso, baby Elizabeth, Allie Rogers, Lou Rastelli, the Bowen & Fisher Family, Michael Charkey, Marion Sherman, Patricia Norton & Jimmy and Marie Davis

Sick and Homebound
Enfermos y confinados en casa:

Lydia Yarborough, Howard Canady, Josette Terry, Gladys Ortiz, Peggy Malinsky, Lorraine Sinclair, Tom Jacoby, Jan Henderson, Mikey Gaugh and Ken Cross

Nursing Homes

Residencias de Ancianos: Mary Hammonds and Therese Morel at Wesley Pines (Lumberton), Elisabeth Oxendine at Carrolton Nursing Home (Fayetteville)

Recently Deceased

Recientemente fallecidos:

David D. Rich (December 8, 2025)
Richard Thompson Jr (December 1, 2025)

*Please notify the office if there is someone you would like us to add to our prayer list. *
Por favor notifique a la oficina si hay alguien que le gustaría que agreguemos a nuestra lista de oración.



As the cold weather sets in, we are reminded of those in our community without adequate food or shelter. Please consider donating ANY non-perishable food item. Even 1 can of soup can bring warmth to the cold. Baskets are located at all entrances to the church.

Con la llegada del frío, recordamos a quienes en nuestra comunidad no tienen suficiente comida ni un techo donde resguardarse. Por favor, considere donar cualquier alimento no perecedero. Incluso una lata de sopa puede brindar calor en estos días fríos. Hay cestas de recolección en todas las entradas de la iglesia.



There will be a short meeting for all ushers on Saturday, January 10th at 9:00am in the church. It is important that all existing ushers attend please.

Theology on Tap for young adults (18-35)
Topic – Discernment: Hearing God's Voice
Who – Fr. Tyler Sparrow, Parochial Vicar of Saint Patrick Catholic Parish, and Fr. Michael Scheutz, Vocations Director of the Diocese of Raleigh.
When – Friday, Feb 6, 2026 @ 7:00PM
Where – Saint Patrick Catholic Parish: 2844 Village Drive, Fayetteville, NC – in the St. Brigid Social Hall [directions to come]

Thesis: Every man and woman is called to serve the greater glory of God by their lives. Certain talents are given to each one of us conducive to the mission we are called to fulfill, but it is our responsibility to discern and discover what that mission is through study, prayer, and most importantly, listening for God's Call. In this special Theology on Tap presentation, we will learn exactly how to accomplish that in our own personal modes of life.

More information to come, stay tuned for communications from the Fayetteville Catholic Young Adult Group!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tony Fit at tony.fitt@outlook.com , or Fr. Sparrow at revtylers@stpatnc.org

Every year in preparation for the feast of St Francis de Sales, we have been having a nine-day Novena. This year we will meet on Zoom every evening at 7:00 p.m. from January 15th to 23rd. You will receive a link 10 minutes before the session begins every day. All you have to do is click on the link. As patron of our parish, we need to further increase our knowledge and connection to his spirituality. Let us all come together as a family in solidarity and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, investigate our commitment to the Catholic Church, to our Patron, to our Lady and to Christ Himself. To sign up, we will have volunteers outside the front and side entrance of the church after each Mass. Please give them your name and email address. You can also sign up by sending us your information to sfdschurchaff@yahoo.com. Thank you for your interest and cooperation.

Saint Francis de Sales January 2026 Reflections

Pacem in Terris vs E Pluribus Unum

(Peace on Earth vs From Many Comes One)



America, first in colonial times and thereafter as the United States, has always had a bivalent acceptance of immigrants. Successive waves of newcomers, including the “original” English settlers in the early 1600’s, were greeted with varying combinations of welcome and scorn by the “established” inhabitants. English colonists were greeted by the Indians (AKA as Native Americans), who were initially bemused by these pale skinned strangers ability to starve in a land of plenty. Our Thanksgiving story relates how the natives helped the settlers to farm, fish, and to survive in the Americas. This initial good will was soon repaid with the displacement and decimation of such natives that lasted almost into the twentieth century. From blunderbusses to machine guns, the superior European arts of war, along with various imported diseases, led to today’s Native Americans living on segregated reservations in relative poverty.

England in the time of the colonies was a Protestant nation, as were the colonies. For much of that period, Catholics were banned and small in numbers. Most of the initial settlers in the Northern colonies were dissident Protestants, i.e., the Puritans. They were tolerated as second class citizens in England, but not in America, and those in the Southern colonies were Church of England. Presbyterian dissidents settled in the mid and Southern colonies after the 1745 defeat of Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Substantial numbers of Catholics began to arrive in the 1840’s, Irish who fled the Potato Famine and Germans who fled repercussions following failed political revolutions. Italians came seeking a new life in the late 1800’s. As did Chinese and Japanese - seeking work. Poles, and East Europeans, many of whom were Catholic, and Jews (mostly Russian), came to escape religious pogroms and other groups began arriving in multitudes in the late 1800’s. As noted above, all these groups faced various prejudices and resentments from those who came before. The Irish faced prejudice from being Catholic or Papists (the wounds and scars of the Reformation were slow healing, but uniquely among immigrants most of them spoke English. All of the other groups mentioned had to face religious and linguistic bias which showed the resentment of earlier arrivals against these foreigners. One factor which helped to alleviate prejudice against these foreigners was their overt, emphatically stated desire to become fully Americanized citizens embracing the customs, laws, work ethic, and language of their new country. Africans were forcibly brought to slavery in America but were not spared their own Immigrant experience when, in the early 20th century, they moved northwards in unproven attempts to achieve equal status as citizens.

These negative resentments against the newcomers, notwithstanding the sentiments inscribed on the Statue of Liberty “give me your tired, your poor... the wretched refuse of your teeming shore,” continues even today, especially affecting immigrants from Central and South America.

The current state of the tolerance or lack of it shown to these Spanish speaking arrivals, either with or without legal permission, has prompted, due to their sheer numbers, the rise of malignant negative mindsets and intense political responses, which have the potential to menace the very foundations of our society. The American Catholic Church, which has been substantially built by and has supported the succession of the waves of immigrants, has been thrust, willingly or not, into the center of this controversial maelstrom.

For the first time in our history, we have a Pope from Chicago (I’d have preferred New York), an American Pope. For the first time in my lifetime at least, a Pope appears to be chastising an American President in his efforts to control immigration and to deport those who entered outside of lawful procedures, especially those who have been convicted or plausibly accused of crimes committed here or in their country of origin. Pope Leo XIV appears to be saying to the President that while every country has a right to protect and control its borders, it would be better (more Christlike, as the Pope would say), to permit whoever so desires to come for whatever reason they choose, regardless of their willingness or ability to contribute to this country which offers them such benevolent shelter. To be fair, Pope Leo seems to be giving similar admonitions to other first world countries. Perhaps the Pope could be reminded of the First Pope Leo who confronted and turned Attila the Hun away from invading and attacking the City of Rome, surely a form of illegal entry. What welcome greeting is offered by the Vatican’s own high walls?

Passions are clearly running high on this issue, and I obviously do not have any ready or simple answers. What appears to be reasonable, fair, and just to me, may not be so to others. However, I do recommend a few steps be taken to at least cool off the rhetoric before we find ourselves in a second bloody civil war.

Some suggestions: cease unlimited assistance to unvetted immigrants whilst American citizens, especially veterans, are destitute and homeless, deport as soon as possible those who are guilty of crimes in this country or their country of origin, those accused or suspected of crimes be incarcerated or detained until their issues are resolved, those who have lived here illegally for years should be subjected to fines and any unpaid taxes owed or be deported, those who refuse to attempt to obtain citizenship should be either deported or subjected to the immigration laws of their country of origin. In contrast those who volunteer for public service as fire fighters, sanitation workers, laborers in unskilled jobs or those who have special skills contributing to the public welfare should be allowed to enter a streamlined program for citizenship. I am confident that there are other different and maybe better ideas than these, but in any case, let us be working on the solution before the problem overwhelms us.

For now, American Catholics should pray for our country and for the intercession of Our Lady who is the Patron of the US in her role as the Immaculate Conception and Patron of the Americas in her role as Our Lady of Guadalupe. Hopefully, in these dually applicable functions she will be our advocate to resolve this issue. It certainly seems to be too big for us mere humans to resolve. Happy New Year to you all.

Respectfully submitted, January 2026

Jerry Devine

Chair Emeritus Liturgy

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